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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157153
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DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/OMA:BGCROWE
APPROVED BY E:RCOOPER
EB/IFD:RJRYAN
H:KJENKINS
EB:AWATSON
----------077847 070017Z /64
O 062356Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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PASS CHARLES MEISSNER, HEAD USG DELEGATION PARIS CLUB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL STAFF PARTICIPATION IN PARIS CLUB

1. JERRY LEVINSON CONTINUES TO PRESS DEPARTMENT ON STATUS OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER AT PARIS CLUB MEETING.

2. LEVINSON HAS BEEN INFORMED CONTENTS OF SECRETARY'S JULY 5 RESPONSE TO SENATOR CHURCH ON THIS ISSUE. TEXT OF LETTER TO CHURCH FOLLOWS:
QUOTE DEAR SENATOR CHURCH:

THE SECRETARY HAS ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 16 CONCERNING YOUR REQUEST TO HAVE A MEMBER OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S STAFF PARTICIPATE AS AN OBSERVER AT THE JULY 6-7 PARIS CLUB MEETING ON ZAIRE. I VERY MUCH
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APOLOGIZE FOR THE DELAY IN RESPONDING TO YOUR REQUEST.

I APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN THE DEBT SITUATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND IN THE PROCESS OF HOW THE CREDITOR CLUB MECHANISM OPERATES. SINCE IT IS MY FIRM OBJECTIVE TO KEEP CONGRESS FULLY INFORMED ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUES I WELCOME THE PRESENCE OF A CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER IN PARIS.

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WHILE THE STAFFER COULD NOT BE ACCREDITED AS A
DELEGATE TO THE ACTUAL PARIS CLUB MEETINGS, THE HEAD OF
THE U.S. DELEGATION HAS ASSURED ME THAT THE STAFFER WOULD
BE INVOLVED IN ALL DELEGATION "CAUCUSES" AND BE INFORMED
ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE DECISION OF WHETHER THE STAFFER CAN ATTEND ACTUAL
MEETINGS IS UP TO THE PARIS CLUB CHAIRMAN, WHO REPRESENTS
THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF FINANCE. HE IS LIKELY TO BE WARY
OF ESTABLISHING A PRECEDENT FOR CONGRESSIONAL OR PARLIA-
MENTARY OBSERVERS. IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE POSSIBLE FOR
OBSERVERS TO BE PRESENT AT FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS, WE WOULD
NOT OBJECT. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO SEEK AN
EXCEPTION FROM THE OTHER CONFEREES.

I UNDERSTAND THAT OUR STAFFS HAVE BEEN IN COMMUNICA-
TION TO ARRANGE NECESSARY HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND THAT
YOUR STAFF HAS ALREADY BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE U.S. DELEGATION CAUCUS AT 3:30, JULY 5, AT THE
AMERICAN EMBASSY IN PARIS. SINCERELY YOURS, DOUGLAS J.
BENNET, JR. END QUOTE.

3. OUR POSITION CONTINUES TO BE THAT IF STAFFER IS
PERMITTED ATTEND ACTUAL PARIS CLUB SESSIONS AS OBSERVER THAT
WE WOULD NOT OBJECT.
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4. WE EXPECT THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP CONGRESSIONAL
STAFFER ADVISED FULLY ON ALL ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATIONS.
IN DISCUSSIONS WITH LEVINSON, DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAVE
ASSURED HIM THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE. VANCE

NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, MEETING OBSERVERS, DEBT REPAYMENTS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1946514
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: CONGRESSIONAL STAFF PARTICIPATION IN PARIS CLUB
TAGS: EFIN, FR, (CHURCH, FRANK), (BENNET, DOUGLAS J JR)
To: PARIS
Type: TE
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